



Committee of the Whole Meeting September 14, 2020 Minutes

A Committee Meeting of the Eastern Lancaster County School Board of Directors, which was properly advertised in the LNP *Lancaster Newspaper*, was held on Monday, September 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., in Community Hall located at the Garden Spot High School and Middle Complex, 669 E. Main Street, New Holland, PA 17557.

Roll Call

Board Members in attendance were: Gary Buck, Brian Conroy, Jacqueline Geyer, Paul Irvin, Dina Maio, Kevin McCarroll, Bryan Naranjo, and Thomas Wentzel

Board Members not in attendance were: Jonathan Dahl

Also in attendance were: Dr. Robert Hollister, Justin W. Johnson, Dr. Nadine Larkin and Keith Ramsey

Staff/Public in attendance were: Several citizens of the community and staff members of the District and a member of the media.

1. Welcome and Call to Order

President Wentzel opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed the Community.

2. Moment of Silence/Reflection - Pledge of Allegiance

President Wentzel led in a silent meditation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Student of the Month Presentation

Mr. Sanger presented and congratulated the Students of the Month for the month of September on the character trait of Leadership:

Grade 12: Jack McCarty, New Holland, PA, with father, Mr. Tim McCarty

Grade 11: Caleb Ghee, New Holland, PA, Unable to Attend

Grade 10: Emily Hoffman, East Earl, PA, with parents, Mr. & Mrs. John and Tamara Hoffman

Grade 9: Lilly Burger, New Holland, PA, with parents, Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Stephanie Burger

Dr. Hollister congratulated and thanked the students and their families.

4. Approve Personnel Report

Dr. Hollister introduced Mr. Timothy Moll, current Music Teacher at New Holland Elementary School hired to be the Dean of Students at Brecknock Elementary School and then Assistant Principal once he received his certification. He also introduced Mrs. Jenna Louderback as the new Assistant Principal at Blue Ball Elementary School.

Mr. Ramsey directed the Board's attention to several transitions for School Monitors to Substitute Teacher Service (STS) employees on the Personnel Report. He noted that these were voluntary transfers and was brought about due to conversations regarding the retention and hiring of school monitors.

Mr. Irvin made a motion to approve the personnel report. It was seconded by Mr. Naranjo. **The motion was approved. (8-0; 1 absent)**

5. Citizens of the District Comments

The Board encourages citizens of the district to come before the Board to present their petitions, inquiries, or other communications of interest. The Board invites public (*Citizens of the District*) comment on any topic that is within the Board's jurisdiction. As outlined in Board Policy 903, the Board requires that public participants be residents or taxpayers of this district. Due to the virtual aspect of the Board meeting, the Board is requesting if you wish to provide public comment during the virtual board meeting, you should sign-up to do so by completing the online form prior to the meeting.

[PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP FORM](#) (*Please use this form only if you are not attending the meeting in person.*)

Public comments will be read aloud during the public comment section of the agenda.

Thank you.

SUBMITTED COMMENTS (VIA PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP FORM):

Abigail O'Neill, 1390 Sheephill Road, East Earl, PA 17519

Dear Board Members,

As a senior in the class of 2021 I have seen the excitement of the new school year deplete among my classmates and myself. All of the things that seniors look forward to will not be the same this year. Each person has been effected in a different way but athletes have had it especially hard. With delayed starts and ludicrous limitations set in place by the state, we need some sense of normalcy. This normalcy could come from the allowance of spectators. The highlights of my volleyball career have come from the games that the stadiums were

packed full of fans. Without the support of the community the game is not the same. With that being said, please look to set in place the limitations for spectators. Although the state has yet to pass the bill to give the schools the final decision, if we make preparations now, when the bill is passed we will be ready. I ask each of you to consider the positive effects this would have on the students and make this dream a reality for Garden Spot's student athletes.

Logan Martin, 583 E Jackson Street, New Holland, PA 17557

As a senior of Garden Spot, I am urging the board to keep the Class of 2021 in mind when making a decision regarding spectators today. Athletes thrive off of the energy and support from their peers and parents. Having spectators at events is half the part of playing the sport. For our seniors, these are our last moments on our home field or court - in which we have played on for the past five years. We are meant to spend those last few moments surrounded by our friends and family. Regardless of Governor Wolfe's recommendation, I believe that we can trust the members of our district to be responsible and honor safety guidelines at sporting events. So please, think of the athletes who are suffering during this time when you make your decision.

COMMENTS (IN-PERSON):

Jim Shirk, 1645 Silver Valley, East Earl, PA 17519

Mr. Shirk presented his concerns and opinions regarding the guidelines for spectators at Athletic events. He presented the Board with a proposed plan for allowing spectators over the 250 total limit for outdoor events.

William Hartman, 1334 Cedar Avenue, East Earl, PA 17519

Mr. Hartman presented his concerns and opinions regarding the guidelines for spectators at Athletic events. He presented the Board with a proposed plan for allowing spectators over the 250 total limit for outdoor events.

Titus Kauffman, 208 S. Yund Avenue, New Holland, PA 17557

Mr. Kauffman commended the Board and Administration for the great job they were doing through this difficult time and said a prayer.

Carla O'Neill, 1390 Sheep Hill Road, East Earl, PA 17519

Ms. O'Neill presented her concerns and opinions regarding the guidelines for spectators at Athletic events. She requested the Board to approve the allowance for more than the 25 total limit for indoor events. Ms. O'Neil thanked the Board for their consideration.

Michelle Esh, 118 Woodmeadow Drive, Denver, PA 17517

Ms. Esh presented a statement from the coach of the GS Girls Volleyball team outlining her concerns and opinions regarding the guidelines for spectators at Athletic events.

Nikki Stern, 1437 Weaverland Road, East Earl, PA 17519

Ms. Stern presented her concerns and opinions regarding the guidelines for spectators at Athletic events. She requested the Board to approve the allowance for more than the 25 total limit for indoor events.

8. d. Information Item - Discussion: Athletic Events Spectator Participation Plan

Dr. Hollister presented the Administration's recommended plan for spectator participation at Athletic events, indicating that the District would start by opening the athletic facilities to 25% capacity, if the Bill approved by the House and Senate was not vetoed by the Governor.

The Board and Administration discussed the Spectator participation plan, capacity limits, specific procedures if the capacity limit was expanded and how the District would move forward with Athletic events if the Bill was passed or vetoed.

Mr. Conroy made a motion to increase spectator capacity to 25% for all District Athletic events. It was seconded by Mr. Buck.

The Board and Administration further discussed the Athletic event capacity concerns.

Mr. Conroy made a motion to table his motion to increase capacity to 25% for all District Athletic events until the next Board meeting for further discussion. It was seconded by Mr. Wentzel. **The motion was approved. (8-0; 1 absent)**

6. Property and Services

a. Action Item - Approval of Board Policies to Comply with Updated Title IX Regulations

- Policy 103 - Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students
- Policy 104 - Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff
- Policy 247 - Hazing
- Policy 249 - Bullying/Cyberbullying
- Policy 252 - Dating Violence **(NEW)**
- Policy 317.1 - Educator Misconduct **(NEW)**
- Policy 824 - Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries **(NEW)**

Mr. Ramsey requested the Board to approve several updated and new policies that complied with the updated Title IX regulations.

b. Action Item - Approval of the Change orders that were executed for the HS/MS Locker Room and HVAC Project, as follows:

General Contractor - ECI Construction

GC-11 \$13,299 Add - Gym floor court lines per discussion at August Committee of the Whole Meeting

Mr. Ramsey requested the Board approve the change order for the HS/MS Locker Room and HVAC project, noting that this was a follow-up from the previous Board meeting when the Board approved option 2 for the gym floor lines.

c. Action Item - Approval of the Change Order for the Tennis Court Project

GC-01 \$167,940 Add - Rock Removal of 540 cubic yards at \$311 per cubic yard (Unit price on bid day was \$363 per cubic yard but was reduced to \$311 per cubic yard because didn't have to haul the rock off site)

Mr. Ramsey requested the Board approve the change order for the Tennis Court Project regarding the removal of rock that was encountered during excavation. Mr. Ramsey introduced Mr. Jim Hocker of Derck & Edson Associates and Mr. Chris Barnhart of Crabtree, Rohrbaugh, & Associates who updated the Board on the process for the rock removal and costs.

d. Information Item - Chiller Replacement at New Holland and Blue Ball Elementary Schools

Mr. Ramsey informed the Board on the current condition of the chiller equipment at both New Holland and Blue Ball Elementary Schools. He indicated that they were part of the District's capital improvement plan but were not currently scheduled to be replaced at this time. He noted that because they were no longer able to hold their charge, they needed to be replaced. Mr. Ramsey reported that he would keep the Board updated.

e. Information Item - Roof Replacement over the Garden Spot Gym

Mr. Ramsey updated the Board on the roof replacement over the Garden Spot Gym. He noted that the roofing company had come out and fixed the leaks that had occurred, however, there was considerable damage done during a storm over the summer. Mr. Ramsey recommended the Board approve putting the replacement of the roof out for bid, indicating that the estimate given for the cost was \$400,000. It was noted that this estimate was on the high side based on worst case scenario and that the District was investigating as to whether the insurance company would cover any of the cost.

Mr. Irvin made a motion to approve the advertisement for the bid of the Garden Spot Gym roof replacement. It was seconded by Mr. Conroy. **The motion was approved. (8-0; 1 absent)**

7. Program

a. Action Item- Approval of Affidavits of Guardianship

Dr. Larkin requested the Board approve several affidavits of guardianship.

b. Information Item - Update on the start of the 2020-2021 School Year.

Dr. Larkin updated the Board with the current enrollment numbers for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. She also updated the Board on the current cyber charter school enrollment numbers, indicating there had been a significant increase from last year. She also reported on the learners who had chosen the remote learning option and indicated that a survey had been sent out to all remote learners that was to be completed by Friday, September 18th. Dr. Larkin informed that Board that she would update them on the results of the survey at the next Board meeting.

The Board and Administration discussed ways of showing appreciation to faculty and staff. Dr. Hollister extended his thanks to all staff, including cafeteria workers, maintenance workers, teachers, and support staff.

The Board and Administration discussed cyber charter school costs and how to bring back families that have left to enroll into those schools.

8. Management

a. Action Item - PSBA Officer Elections. Board will need to discuss and vote on candidates for various leadership positions at PSBA.

Dr. Hollister presented the Board with the action item that required the Board to vote for several officer positions at PSBA, noting that there was only one position, Vice-President, that was being contested.

The Board and Administration discussed the Slate of Candidates with Mr. Irvin noting the recommendation of Mr. O'Keefe for Vice President.

Mr. Irvin made a motion to approve the slate of candidates for the PSBA elections including Mr. Daniel O'Keefe for the position of Vice-President. It was seconded by Mr. Conroy. **The motion was approved. (8-0; 1 absent)**

b. Information Item - POLICY 237 – Electronic Devices, First Reading

Dr. Hollister presented the Board with an updated Board Policy 237 for Electronic Devices for its first reading. He noted that the updated policy was recommended by a Solicitor who specializes in technology law as part of services that the District received through the IU13.

c. Information Item - POLICY 815.1 – Use of Livestream Video on School District Property, First Reading

Dr. Hollister presented the Board with a new Board Policy 815.1 for Livestreaming Video on School District Property. He noted that this policy was being recommended by the technology law solicitor. Dr. Hollister informed the Board that the District was still currently working on the Memorandum of Agreement with the Teacher Association regarding the cameras in the classroom. He indicated that if the Board had any questions about either of the presented board policies, they could reach out to him.

e. Information Item - Discussion of Superintendent 20-21 School Year Focus Area (Goals)

Dr. Hollister presented his proposed draft Superintendent focus areas for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Cyber Charter Schools
- Investigation of Racial Bias
- Teacher Recruitment
- Updated Comprehensive Facilities Plan
- District Administrator Professional Development
- Trauma-Informed Training for Board

He noted that he would be officially bring these focus areas to the Board for approval at the next Board meeting.

9. Announcements

Dr. Hollister updated the Board on the start of the school year, noting the incredible work that was being done by the staff. He indicated that there were still some challenges that the District was facing including the demand on technology, the loss of several professional staff, and handling the increase volume of ElancOnline learners. Dr. Hollister commented that he was pleased and proud of the efforts taking place with a very supportive community.

10. Adjournment

Mr. Irvin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 p.m. with a second by Mr. Naranjo. **The motion was approved. (8-0; 1 absent)**

Justin W. Johnson
School Board Secretary
September 14, 2020